

Programming 2

Tutorial and Practical 1

This week's tutorial and practical sessions concentrate on refreshing the knowledge you have gained from your earlier studies in Java (i.e. Programming 1 course).

Tutorial Questions

1. What does visibility mean, in the context of object properties? What do the visibility modifiers influence?
2. If there were 10 instances of a class that had a `static` property, how many copies of that property exist in memory? What if there were none?
3. The `final` modifier has slightly different meanings, depending on the property it is used with. Explain the meaning of `final` for primitives, reference types, methods and classes.
4. Answer true or false to the following questions:
 - a. The value of a `final` primitive can be changed.
 - b. The values inside a `final` object cannot be changed.
 - c. A `final` method cannot be inherited.
 - d. A `final` method can be inherited, but cannot be overridden.
 - e. A `final` class cannot be extended.
 - f. A `final` class can have non-`final` data.
 - g. Methods of a `final` class are all implicitly `final`.
5. Explain the differences between overridden and overloaded methods. How can the Java interpreter differentiate between overloaded methods? When can't a method be overridden?

Practical Session

Weblearn Test

There is a Weblearn test (worth 2% of the course mark) related to Programming 1 revision to complete. This test should take no longer than 45-50 minutes to complete.

Once you have completed the test do the practical questions below.

Practical Questions

1. Write a driver class for the `CatalogueItem` class discussed in the online lecture notes for this week. The program should prompt for information, create a new `CatalogueItem` object from that data, and then print all the item information to the screen (code, description, price and tax component) using the appropriate accessor methods. For example:

```
Enter a catalogue code: TV140
Enter a description: Television
Enter a price: 410.00
```

```
The item details are:
Code:    TV140
Desc.:   Television
Price:   451.00
Tax:     41.00
```

2. From your code in the earlier question, add support for the `ImportedItem` class discussed in this week's lecture material.

The driver class should this time prompt for a country of origin as well; if this prompt is left blank, the driver class should create a `CatalogueItem` object. If a country is entered, an `ImportedItem` object should be created. (There should only be one `CatalogueItem` object declared; if an `ImportedItem` is entered, use polymorphism to store it in the `CatalogueItem` reference.)

Once the data is stored, print out what type of object resides in the reference, and print out all relevant details (i.e. don't show country of origin at all if a `CatalogueItem` is being displayed. You can use the `instanceof` operator and type-cast to get to any unique properties of `ImportedItem`.)

Note: later on in this course, you will learn how to structure object and functionality hierarchies in a more elegant fashion, such that the use of `instanceof` and type-casts can be avoided.

3. Modify the program further to read in three sets of data, and use an array of `CatalogueItem` objects to store them. After data entry has completed, it should display all the items in a table-like view. The program should be written in such a way that the array size can be changed at the array declaration line of the code, with no additional code modification required.